GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2972
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2002
HOSTELS FOR BACKWARD CLASSES
RAMJI MANJHI

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of students are deprived of better educational opportunities belonging to socially and educationally backward classes because of lack of hostel facilities;

(b) if so, the number of hostels sanctioned during the last three years and the number out of them have been constructed so far;

(c) the reasons for not constructing all the hostels; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to construct the hostels sanctioned so far immediately?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI S. B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a) Adequate hostel facilities are not available in the country to provide accommodation to all OBC students.

(b) A total number of 149 hostels have been sanctioned under the Scheme of Hostels for OBC Boys & Girls during last three years out of which 47 have already been constructed.

(c) The construction of hostels is carried out by the State governments. Out of the 102 incomplete hostels, 57 were sanctioned towards the end of 2001-02. These are to be constructed within 2 years. In case of remaining 45 hostels the delay in some cases is due to delay in release of matching share by the State Governmentor change of location of the proposed hostels or other administrative problems of the State Government.

(d) State Government have been requested to submit quarterly progress report onconstruction of hostels and to complete the construction of hostels within two years from the date of release of funds.